

## Project:

Consultancy Report - Review of  
On-Going Development

## Project size:

3 days

## Team size:

1 Consultant



*Blueberry identified and helped minimise the risks associated with the Perinatal Institute's new development.*

**Blueberry Consultants Ltd**  
Unit T1, The Arch  
48-52 Floodgate Street  
Birmingham B5 5SL  
United Kingdom

Web: [www.bbconsult.co.uk](http://www.bbconsult.co.uk)  
Tel: +44 (0)121 285 0100  
Fax: +44 (0)121 772 3103

# The Perinatal Institute

## Innovative Data Collection System

### The Client

The Perinatal Institute is a research and audit organisation based in the West Midlands which has developed an innovative data collection system, deployed in a number of Neonatal Units in NHS hospitals around the West Midlands and Trent regions. The application collects data about clinical events that occur to babies during the course of a stay in a neonatal unit and is being enhanced to additionally collect data related to mothers during pregnancy.

### The Challenge

The Perinatal Institute wanted to ensure that the risks associated with this new development were identified and minimised.

Blueberry was commissioned to review the ongoing development and to examine the current concerns, which were:

- **Project timescales and scope** – the Perinatal Institute wanted to run a pilot within 4 months of starting the project.
- **End user reporting** – data collected by this system was to be analysed and used by a separate team, so it needed to be accurate and easily accessible.
- **Technology risks** – the existing software architecture used some in-house software, which could potentially be

simplified or replaced by later versions of Microsoft's .NET library.

- **Team dynamics and interaction.**

### The Solution

A report was prepared to address the concerns of the Perinatal Institute by Blueberry's subject matter experts.

The summary of proposals and recommendations included changes to the project team - the report identified areas where additional skill sets would be advantageous, and where further staff training was needed; a review of the software architecture to improve performance; and a review of the proposed user interface design.

One of the key requirements for the system was that the data collected should be easily available for analysis. To achieve this, Blueberry identified how the existing gap between non-technical and technical personnel could be closed, by assigning a person with SQL skills to the analysis team, who would be able to produce the required reports quickly.